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Attorney for Plaintiff

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN JOSE DIVISION**

RICHARD TAKAHATA,

Plaintiff,

v.

CALIFORNIA RECOVERY SYSTEMS,
INC. SONIA BANKS, ERIC MEDRANO,
and CHERYL DOE,

Defendants.

Case No.: C08-03400 RMW

~~[Proposed]~~ **STIPULATED
PROTECTIVE ORDER**

(AS MODIFIED BY THE COURT TO
ADD REFERENCES TO CIVIL LOCAL
RULE 79-5, IN CONFORMANCE WITH
THE COURT'S MODEL FORM OF
PROTECTIVE ORDER)

1 **1. PURPOSES AND LIMITATIONS**

2 Disclosure and discovery activity in this action are likely to involve production of
 3 confidential, proprietary, or private information for which special protection from public
 4 disclosure and from use for any purpose other than prosecuting this litigation would be
 5 warranted. Accordingly, the parties hereby stipulate to and petition the court to enter the
 6 following Stipulated Protective Order. The parties acknowledge that this Order does not confer
 7 blanket protections on all disclosures or responses to discovery and that the protection it affords
 8 extends only to the limited information or items that are entitled under the applicable legal
 9 principles to treatment as confidential. The parties further acknowledge, as set forth in Section
 10 10, below, that this Stipulated Protective Order creates no entitlement to file confidential
 11 information under seal: Civil Local Rule 79-5 sets forth the procedures that must be
 12 followed and reflects the standards that will be applied when a party seeks permission

13 **2. DEFINITIONS**

from the court to file material under seal.

14 2.1 Party: any party to this action, including all of its officers, directors, employees,
 15 consultants, retained experts, and outside counsel (and their support staff).

16 2.2 Disclosure or Discovery Material: all items or information, regardless of the medium
 17 or manner generated, stored, or maintained (including, among other things, testimony,
 18 transcripts, or tangible things) that are produced or generated in disclosures or responses to
 19 discovery in this matter.

20 2.3 “Confidential” Information or Items: information (regardless of how generated,
 21 stored or maintained) or tangible things that qualify for protection under standards developed
 22 under
 23 F.R.Civ.P. 26(c).

24 2.4 “Highly Confidential – Attorneys’ Eyes Only” Information or Items: extremely
 25 sensitive “Confidential Information or Items” whose disclosure to another Party or nonparty

1 would create a substantial risk of serious injury that could not be avoided by less restrictive
2 means.

3 2.5 Receiving Party: a Party that receives Disclosure or Discovery Material from a
4 Producing Party.

5 2.6 Producing Party: a Party or non-party that produces Disclosure or Discovery Material
6 in this action.

7 2.7 Designating Party: a Party or non-party that designates information or items that it
8 produces in disclosures or in responses to discovery as “Confidential” or “Highly Confidential
9 — Attorneys’ Eyes Only.”

10 2.8 Protected Material: any Disclosure or Discovery Material that is designated as
11 “Confidential” or as “Highly Confidential – Attorneys’ Eyes Only.”

12 2.9 Outside Counsel: attorneys who are not employees of a Party but who are retained to
13 represent or advise a Party in this action.

14 2.10 House Counsel: attorneys who are employees of a Party.

15 2.11 Counsel (without qualifier): Outside Counsel and House Counsel (as well as their
16 support staffs).

17 2.12 Expert: a person with specialized knowledge or experience in a matter
18 pertinent to the litigation who has been retained by a Party or its counsel to serve as an expert
19 witness or as a consultant in this action and who is not a past or a current employee of a Party or
20 of a competitor of a Party’s and who, at the time of retention, is not anticipated to become an
21 employee of a Party or a competitor of a Party’s. This definition includes a professional jury or
22 trial consultant retained in connection with this litigation.

23 2.13 Professional Vendors: persons or entities that provide litigation support
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25

1 services (e.g., photocopying; videotaping; translating; preparing exhibits or demonstrations;
2 organizing, storing, retrieving data in any form or medium; etc.) and their employees and
3 subcontractors.

4 **3. SCOPE**

5 The protections conferred by this Stipulation and Order cover not only Protected Material (as
6 defined above), but also any information copied or extracted therefrom, as well as all copies,
7 excerpts, summaries, or compilations thereof, plus testimony, conversations, or presentations by
8 parties or counsel to or in court or in other settings that might reveal Protected Material.
9

10 **4. DURATION**

11 Even after the termination of this litigation, the confidentiality obligations imposed by this
12 Order shall remain in effect until a Designating Party agrees otherwise in writing or a court order
13 otherwise directs.

14 **5. DESIGNATING PROTECTED MATERIAL**

15 5.1 Exercise of Restraint and Care in Designating Material for Protection. Each Party or
16 non-party that designates information or items for protection under this Order must take care to
17 limit any such designation to specific material that qualifies under the appropriate standards. A
18 Designating Party must take care to designate for protection only those parts of material,
19 documents, items, or oral or written communications that qualify – so that other portions of the
20 material, documents, items, or communications for which protection is not warranted are not
21 swept unjustifiably within the ambit of this Order.
22

23 Mass, indiscriminate, or routinized designations are prohibited. Designations that are shown
24 to be clearly unjustified, or that have been made for an improper purpose (e.g., to unnecessarily
25

1 encumber or retard the case development process, or to impose unnecessary expenses and
2 burdens on other parties), expose the Designating Party to sanctions.

3 If it comes to a Party's or a non-party's attention that information or items that it designated
4 for protection do not qualify for protection at all, or do not qualify for the level of protection
5 initially asserted, that Party or non-party must promptly notify all other parties that it is
6 withdrawing the mistaken designation.

7
8 5.2 Manner and Timing of Designations. Except as otherwise provided in this Order (see,
9 e.g., second paragraph of section 5.2(a), below), or as otherwise stipulated or ordered, material
10 that qualifies for protection under this Order must be clearly so designated before the material is
11 disclosed or produced.

12 Designation in conformity with this Order requires:

13 (a) for information in documentary form (apart from transcripts of depositions or
14 other pretrial or trial proceedings), that the Producing Party affix the legend "CONFIDENTIAL"
15 or "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL – ATTORNEYS' EYES ONLY" at the top of each page that
16 contains protected material. If only a portion or portions of the material on a page qualifies for
17 protection, the Producing Party also must clearly identify the protected portion(s) (e.g., by
18 making appropriate markings in the margins) and must specify, for each portion, the level of
19 protection being asserted (either "CONFIDENTIAL" or "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL –
20 ATTORNEYS' EYES ONLY").
21

22 A Party or non-party that makes original documents or materials available for inspection
23 need not designate them for protection until after the inspecting Party has indicated which
24 material it would like copied and produced. During the inspection and before the designation, all
25 of the material made available for inspection shall be deemed "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL –

1 ATTORNEYS' EYES ONLY." After the inspecting Party has identified the documents it wants
2 copied and produced, the Producing Party must determine which documents, or portions thereof,
3 qualify for protection under this Order, then, before producing the specified documents, the
4 Producing Party must affix the appropriate legend ("CONFIDENTIAL" or "HIGHLY
5 CONFIDENTIAL – ATTORNEYS' EYES ONLY") at the top of each page that contains
6 Protected Material. If only a portion or portions of the material on a page qualifies for protection,
7 the Producing Party also must clearly identify the protected portion(s) (e.g., by making
8 appropriate markings in the margins) and must specify, for each portion, the level of protection
9 being asserted (either "CONFIDENTIAL" or "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL – ATTORNEYS'
10 EYES ONLY").
11

12 (b) for testimony given in deposition or in other pretrial or trial proceedings, that
13 the Party or non-party offering or sponsoring the testimony identify on the record, before the
14 close of the deposition, hearing, or other proceeding, all protected testimony, and further specify
15 any portions of the testimony that qualify as "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL – ATTORNEYS'
16 EYES ONLY." When it is impractical to identify separately each portion of testimony that is
17 entitled to protection, and when it appears that substantial portions of the testimony may qualify
18 for protection, the Party or non-party that sponsors, offers, or gives the testimony may invoke on
19 the record (before the deposition or proceeding is concluded) a right to have up to 20 days to
20 identify the specific portions of the testimony as to which protection is sought and to specify the
21 level of protection being asserted ("CONFIDENTIAL" or "HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL –
22 ATTORNEYS' EYES ONLY"). Only those portions of the testimony that are appropriately
23 designated for protection within the 20 days shall be covered by the provisions of this Stipulated
24 Protective Order.
25

1 Transcript pages containing Protected Material must be separately bound by the court
2 reporter, who must affix to the top of each such page the legend “CONFIDENTIAL” or
3 “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL – ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY,” as instructed by the Party or
4 nonparty offering or sponsoring the witness or presenting the testimony.

5 (c) for information produced in some form other than documentary, and for any
6 other tangible items, that the Producing Party affix in a prominent place on the exterior of the
7 container or containers in which the information or item is stored the legend “CONFIDENTIAL”
8 or “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL – ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY.” If only portions of the
9 information or item warrant protection, the Producing Party, to the extent practicable, shall
10 identify the protected portions, specifying whether they qualify as “Confidential” or as “Highly
11 Confidential – Attorneys’ Eyes Only.”

12
13 5.3 Inadvertent Failures to Designate. If timely corrected, an inadvertent failure to
14 designate qualified information or items as “Confidential” or “Highly Confidential – Attorneys’
15 Eyes Only” does not, standing alone, waive the Designating Party’s right to secure protection
16 under this Order for such material. If material is appropriately designated as “Confidential” or
17 “Highly Confidential – Attorneys’ Eyes Only” after the material was initially produced, the
18 Receiving Party, on timely notification of the designation, must make reasonable efforts to
19 assure that the material is treated in accordance with the provisions of this Order.

20 **6. CHALLENGING CONFIDENTIALITY DESIGNATIONS**

21
22 6.1 Timing of Challenges. Unless a prompt challenge to a Designating Party’s
23 confidentiality designation is necessary to avoid foreseeable substantial unfairness, unnecessary
24 economic burdens, or a later significant disruption or delay of the litigation, a Party does not
25

1 waive its right to challenge a confidentiality designation by electing not to mount a challenge
2 promptly after the original designation is disclosed.

3 6.2 Meet and Confer. A Party that elects to initiate a challenge to a Designating Party's
4 confidentiality designation must do so in good faith and must begin the process by conferring
5 directly (in voice to voice dialogue; other forms of communication are not sufficient) with
6 counsel for the Designating Party. In conferring, the challenging Party must explain the basis for
7 its belief that the confidentiality designation was not proper and must give the Designating Party
8 an opportunity to review the designated material, to reconsider the circumstances, and, if no
9 change in designation is offered, to explain the basis for the chosen designation. A challenging
10 Party may proceed to the next stage of the challenge process only if it has engaged in this meet
11 and confer process first.

13 6.3 Judicial Intervention. A Party that elects to press a challenge to a confidentiality
14 designation after considering the justification offered by the Designating Party may file and
15 under Civil Local Ruler 7 (and in compliance with Civil Local Rule 79-5, if applicable)
16 serve a motion that identifies the challenged material and sets forth in detail the basis for the
17 challenge. Each such motion must be accompanied by a competent declaration that affirms that
18 the movant has complied with the meet and confer requirements imposed in the preceding
19 paragraph and that sets forth with specificity the justification for the confidentiality designation
20 that was given by the Designating Party in the meet and confer dialogue.

21 The burden of persuasion in any such challenge proceeding shall be on the Designating
22 Party. Until the court rules on the challenge, all parties shall continue to afford the material in
23 question the level of protection to which it is entitled under the Producing Party's designation.

24 **7. ACCESS TO AND USE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL**

1 7.1 Basic Principles. A Receiving Party may use Protected Material that is disclosed or
2 produced by another Party or by a non-party in connection with this case only for prosecuting,
3 defending, or attempting to settle this litigation. Such Protected Material may be disclosed only
4 to the categories of persons and under the conditions described in this Order. When the litigation
5 has been terminated, a Receiving Party must comply with the provisions of section 11, below
6 (FINAL DISPOSITION).

7 Protected Material must be stored and maintained by a Receiving Party at a location and in a
8 secure manner that ensures that access is limited to the persons authorized under this Order.
9

10 7.2 Disclosure of "CONFIDENTIAL" Information or Items. Unless otherwise ordered by
11 the court or permitted in writing by the Designating Party, a Receiving Party may disclose any
12 information or item designated CONFIDENTIAL only to:

13 (a) the Receiving Party's Outside Counsel of record in this action, as well as employees of
14 said Counsel to whom it is reasonably necessary to disclose the information for this litigation and
15 who have signed the "Agreement to Be Bound by Protective Order" that is attached hereto as
16 Exhibit A;

17 (b) the officers, directors, and employees (including House Counsel) of the Receiving Party
18 to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this litigation and who have signed the
19 "Agreement to Be Bound by Protective Order" (Exhibit A);
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21 (c) experts (as defined in this Order) of the Receiving Party to whom disclosure is reasonably
22 necessary for this litigation and who have signed the "Agreement to Be Bound by Protective
23 Order" (Exhibit A);

24 (d) the Court and its personnel;
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(e) court reporters, their staffs, and professional vendors to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this litigation and who have signed the “Agreement to Be Bound by Protective Order” (Exhibit A);

(f) during their depositions, witnesses in the action to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary and who have signed the “Agreement to Be Bound by Protective Order” (Exhibit A). Pages of transcribed deposition testimony or exhibits to depositions that reveal Protected Material must be separately bound by the court reporter and may not be disclosed to anyone except as permitted under this Stipulated Protective Order.

(g) the author of the document or the original source of the information.

7.3 Disclosure of “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL – ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY” Information or Items. Unless otherwise ordered by the court or permitted in writing by the Designating Party, a Receiving Party may disclose any information or item designated “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL – ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY” only to:

(a) the Receiving Party’s Outside Counsel of record in this action, as well as employees of said Counsel to whom it is reasonably necessary to disclose the information for this litigation and who have signed the “Agreement to Be Bound by Protective Order” that is attached hereto as Exhibit A;

(b) Experts (as defined in this Order) (1) to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this litigation, and (2) who have signed the “Agreement to Be Bound by Protective Order” (Exhibit A)

(c) the Court and its personnel;

(d) court reporters, their staffs, and professional vendors to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this litigation and who have signed the “Agreement to Be Bound by Protective Order” (Exhibit A); and

(e) the author of the document or the original source of the information.

8. PROTECTED MATERIAL SUBPOENAED OR ORDERED PRODUCED IN OTHER LITIGATION

If a Receiving Party is served with a subpoena or an order issued in other litigation that would compel disclosure of any information or items designated in this action as “CONFIDENTIAL” or “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL – ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY,” the Receiving Party must so notify the Designating Party, in writing (by fax, if possible) immediately and in no event more than three court days after receiving the subpoena or order. Such notification must include a copy of the subpoena or court order.

The Receiving Party also must immediately inform in writing the Party who caused the subpoena or order to issue in the other litigation that some or all the material covered by the subpoena or order is the subject of this Protective Order. In addition, the Receiving Party must deliver a copy of this Stipulated Protective Order promptly to the Party in the other action that caused the subpoena or order to issue.

The purpose of imposing these duties is to alert the interested parties to the existence of this Protective Order and to afford the Designating Party in this case an opportunity to try to protect its confidentiality interests in the court from which the subpoena or order issued. The Designating Party shall bear the burdens and the expenses of seeking protection in that court of its confidential material – and nothing in these provisions should be construed as authorizing or encouraging a Receiving Party in this action to disobey a lawful directive from another court.

9. UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

1 If a Receiving Party learns that, by inadvertence or otherwise, it has disclosed Protected Material
2 to any person or in any circumstance not authorized under this Stipulated Protective Order, the
3 Receiving Party must immediately (a) notify in writing the Designating Party of the unauthorized
4 disclosures, (b) use its best efforts to retrieve all copies of the Protected Material, (c) inform the
5 person or persons to whom unauthorized disclosures were made of all the terms of this Order,
6 and (d) request such person or persons to execute the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be
7 Bound” that is attached hereto as Exhibit A.
8

9 **10. FILING PROTECTED MATERIAL**

10 Without written permission from the Designating Party or a court order secured after appropriate
11 notice to all interested persons, a Party may not file in the public record in this action any
12 Protected Material. A Party that seeks to file under seal any Protected Material must
13 comply with Civil Local Rule 79-5.

14 **11. FINAL DISPOSITION**

15 Unless otherwise ordered or agreed in writing by the Producing Party, within sixty days after
16 the final termination of this action, each Receiving Party must return all Protected Material to the
17 Producing Party. As used in this subdivision, “all Protected Material” includes all copies,
18 abstracts, compilations, summaries or any other form of reproducing or capturing any of the
19 Protected Material. With permission in writing from the Designating Party, the Receiving Party
20 may destroy some or all of the Protected Material instead of returning it. Whether the Protected
21 Material is returned or destroyed, the Receiving Party must submit a written certification to the
22 Producing Party (and, if not the same person or entity, to the Designating Party) by the sixty day
23 deadline that identifies (by category, where appropriate) all the Protected Material that was
24 returned or destroyed and that affirms that the Receiving Party has not retained any copies,
25 abstracts, compilations, summaries or other forms of reproducing or capturing any of the

1 Protected Material. Notwithstanding this provision, Counsel are entitled to retain an archival
2 copy of all pleadings, motion papers, transcripts, legal memoranda, correspondence or attorney
3 work product, even if such materials contain Protected Material. Any such archival copies that
4 contain or constitute Protected Material remain subject to this Protective Order as set forth in
5 Section 4 (DURATION), above.

6 **12. MISCELLANEOUS**

7
8 12.1 Right to Further Relief. Nothing in this Order abridges the right of any person to seek
9 its modification by the Court in the future.

10 12.2 Right to Assert Other Objections. By stipulating to the entry of this Protective Order
11 no Party waives any right it otherwise would have to object to disclosing or producing any
12 information or item on any ground not addressed in this Stipulated Protective Order. Similarly,
13 no Party waives any right to object on any ground to use in evidence of any of the material
14 covered by this Protective Order.

15 **IT IS SO STIPULATED, THROUGH COUNSEL OF RECORD.**

16
17 DATED: 2/6/09

18
19 /s/Ronald Wilcox

20 Attorneys for Plaintiff Richard Takahata

21
22 DATED: 2/6/09

23
24 /s/Wendy Vierra

25 Wendy Vierra, Attorney for Defendants

1 **PURSUANT TO STIPULATION, IT IS SO ORDERED.**

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5 DATED: 2/10/09

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9 U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE
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EXHIBIT A
ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND AGREEMENT TO BE BOUND

I, _____ [print or type full name], of _____
[print or type full address], declare under penalty of perjury that I have read in its entirety and understand the Stipulated Protective Order that was issued by the United States District Court for the Northern District of California on [date] in the case of _____ **[insert formal name of the case and the number and initials assigned to it by the court]**. I agree to comply with and to be bound by all the terms of this Stipulated Protective Order and I understand and acknowledge that failure to so comply could expose me to sanctions and punishment in the nature of contempt. I solemnly promise that I will not disclose in any manner any information or item that is subject to this Stipulated Protective Order to any person or entity except in strict compliance with the provisions of this Order.

I further agree to submit to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the Northern District of California for the purpose of enforcing the terms of this Stipulated Protective Order, even if such enforcement proceedings occur after termination of this action. I hereby appoint _____ [print or type full name] of _____ [print or type full address and telephone number] as my California agent for service of process in connection with this action or any proceedings related to enforcement of this Stipulated Protective Order.

Date: _____

City and State where sworn and signed: _____

Printed name: _____

[printed name]

Signature: _____

[signature]